

This document is designed to be used as guidance for Centres who should produce individual risk assessments and implement measures to support their business. As the situation can change very quickly and there are varied restrictions by area, please follow your own national guidelines in relation to social distancing and PPE.

We recommend staff members/volunteers take a lateral flow test, twice weekly as a minimum. If a PCR test is required due to close contact with someone who has tested positive, please abide by your own national guidelines in relation to vaccinations isolation requirements.

Care assessments

In care assessments (Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3) the assessor to candidate ratio will be 1:3.

In Stage 4 this will be 1:2 and where possible the assessment should be done in an open/ outdoor environment (e.g. on the yard).

We recommend having a separate designated area for the assessment to limit the number of people that the candidates may come into contact with. The area should be big enough that social distancing can be observed.

All equipment that is being used or shared should be disinfected before and after each use.

There should be hand sanitizer available and facilities for candidates to wash and dry their hands thoroughly.

If any part of the assessment needs to take place indoors, this should be in a well-ventilated area with windows that can open.

The restrictions on face masks changes frequently, please ensure you are familiar with current requirements. Masks should be fitted over the mouth and nose securely. However ultimately the decision to enforce face coverings is up to the individual centre and their own risk assessment.

If a member of staff feels unwell or has any Covid 19 symptoms 48 hours after the assessment has taken place, please notify the Education Team as soon as possible.

Ride assessments

Guidelines surrounding the use of indoor schools is under discussion and may vary by area. We advise you to check local guidelines at the time of your assessment to ensure you are following the most up to date rules.

You could also speak to your insurance companies and local authorities (if applicable) and risk assess your indoor school, taking ventilation/ construction into account to get a definitive answer.

Riding groups tend to be no more than 6 in a group with one assessor. A caller is still allowed and should follow social distancing guidelines. We recommend the riders lead the horse to the mounting block and mount unassisted if possible. If a horse needs to be held,

Covid Guidance for Centres during BHS Assessments

we recommend the caller does this and follows the centres risk assessment. The caller can also be used to move poles/jumps as necessary.

There should be hand sanitizer available and facilities for a candidates to wash and dry their hands thoroughly.

If a member of staff feels unwell or has any Covid 19 symptoms 48 hours after the assessment has taken place, please notify the Education Team as soon as possible.

Coach assessments

Guidelines surrounding number of people in a particular area and social distancing changes frequently, so we recommend you check with your own local guidelines before the assessment day.

As with any ridden activity, a risk assessment should be completed.

Any shared equipment should be disinfected and hand sanitiser should be made available.

We advise candidates who wish to wear face masks, to ask the centre first to ensure their horses are familiar with people approaching them in a mask.

If a member of staff feels unwell or has any Covid 19 symptoms 48 hours after the assessment has taken place, please notify the Education Team as soon as possible.